1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to housing for agricultural workers;
3	amending s. 163.3162, F.S.; defining the terms
4	"housing site" and "legally verified agricultural
5	worker"; prohibiting a governmental entity from
6	adopting or enforcing legislation that inhibits the
7	construction of housing for legally verified
8	agricultural workers on agricultural land operated as
9	a bona fide farm; authorizing local governments to
10	adopt land use regulations that are less restrictive
11	than certain regulations; requiring that the
12	construction or installation of such housing units on
13	agricultural lands satisfy certain criteria; requiring
14	that local ordinances comply with certain regulations;
15	requiring property owners to maintain certain records
16	for a specified timeframe; requiring the suspension of
17	use of certain housing units and authorizing their
18	removal under certain circumstances; specifying
19	applicability of permit allocation systems in certain
20	areas of critical state concern; authorizing the
21	continued use of housing sites constructed before the
22	effective date of the act if certain conditions are
23	met; providing requirements for property owners of
24	certain housing sites; providing an effective date.
25	

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26	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
27	
28	Section 1. Paragraphs (e) and (f) are added to subsection
29	(2) of section 163.3162, Florida Statutes, and subsection (5) is
30	added to that section, to read:
31	163.3162 Agricultural Lands and Practices
32	(2) DEFINITIONSAs used in this section, the term:
33	(e) "Housing site" means the totality of development
34	supporting authorized housing, including buildings, mobile
35	homes, barracks, dormitories used as living quarters, parking
36	areas, common areas such as athletic fields or playgrounds,
37	storage structures, and other related structures.
38	(f) "Legally verified agricultural worker" means a person
39	who meets all of the following criteria:
40	1. Is lawfully present in the United States.
41	2. Has been verified through the process provided in s.
42	448.095 and is authorized to work at the time of employment.
43	3. Is seasonally or annually employed in bona fide
44	agricultural production.
45	4. Remains lawfully present and authorized to work
46	throughout the duration of that employment.
47	
4/	
48	The term includes a migrant farmworker as defined in s.
48	The term includes a migrant farmworker as defined in s.

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51	(5) HOUSING FOR LEGALLY VERIFIED AGRICULTURAL WORKERS
52	(a) A governmental entity may not adopt or enforce any
53	legislation to inhibit the construction or installation of
54	housing for legally verified agricultural workers on land
55	classified as agricultural land pursuant to s. 193.461 which is
56	operated as a bona fide farm except as provided in this
57	subsection. However, a local government may adopt land use
58	regulations that are less restrictive than as provided in this
59	subsection.
60	(b) Construction or installation of housing units for
61	legally verified agricultural workers on parcels of land
62	classified as agricultural land under s. 193.461 must satisfy
63	all of the following criteria:
64	1. The dwelling units must meet federal, state, and local
65	building standards, including standards of the Department of
66	Health adopted pursuant to ss. 381.008-381.00897 and federal
67	standards for H-2A visa housing. If written notice of intent is
68	required to be submitted to the Department of Health pursuant to
69	s. 381.0083, the appropriate governmental entity with
70	jurisdiction over the agricultural lands may also require
71	submittal of a copy of the written notice.
72	2. The housing site must be maintained in a neat, orderly,
73	and safe manner.
74	3. All structures containing dwelling units must be
75	located a minimum of 10 feet apart.
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76 The square footage of the housing site's climate-4. 77 controlled facilities may not exceed 1.5 percent of the 78 property's area or 35,000 square feet, whichever is less. 79 5. A housing site must provide front, side, and rear yard 80 setbacks of at least 50 feet. However, an internal project driveway may be located in the required yard space if the yard 81 82 is adjacent to a public roadway or to property that is under 83 common ownership with the housing site. 84 6. A housing site may not be located less than 250 feet 85 from a property line adjacent to property zoned for residential 86 use. If the housing site is located less than 500 feet from any 87 property line, screening must be provided between the housing site and any residentially developed adjacent parcels that are 88 89 under different ownership. The screening may be designed in any 90 of the following ways: 91 a. Evergreen plants that, at the time of planting, are at 92 least 6 feet in height and provide an overall screening opacity 93 of 75 percent; 94 b. A masonry wall at least 6 feet in height and finished on all sides with brick, stone, or painted or pigmented stucco; 95 96 c. A solid wood or PVC fence at least 6 feet in height 97 with the finished side of the fence facing out; 98 d. A row of everyreen shade trees that, at the time of 99 planting, are at least 10 feet in height, a minimum of 2-inch 100 caliper, and spaced no more than 20 feet apart; or

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101	e. A berm made with a combination of the materials listed
102	in sub-subparagraphs ad., which is at least 6 feet in height
103	and provides an overall screening opacity of 75 percent at the
104	time of installation.
105	7. All access drives that serve the housing site must be
106	made of packed shell, gravel, or a similar material that will
107	provide a relatively dust-free surface.
108	(c) Any local ordinance adopted pursuant to this
109	subsection must comply with all state and federal regulations
110	for migrant farmworker housing, as applicable, including rules
111	adopted by the Department of Health pursuant to ss. 381.008-
112	381.00897 and federal regulations under the Migrant and Seasonal
113	Agricultural Worker Protection Act or the H-2A visa program.
114	(d) Beginning July 1, 2024, a property owner must maintain
115	records of all approved permits, including successor permits,
116	for migrant labor camps or residential migrant housing as
117	required under s. 381.0081. A property owner must maintain such
118	records for at least 3 years and make the records available for
119	inspection within 14 days after receipt of a request for records
120	by a governmental entity.
121	(e) A housing site may not continue to be used and may be
122	required to be removed under the following circumstances:
123	1. If, for any reason, a housing site is not being used
124	for legally verified agricultural workers for longer than 365
125	days, any structures used as living quarters must be removed

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126 from the housing site within 180 days after receipt of written 127 notification from the county unless the property owner can 128 demonstrate that use of the site for housing legally verified 129 agricultural workers will occur within 90 days after receipt of 130 the written notification. 131 2. If the property on which the housing site is located 132 ceases to be classified as agricultural land, housing authorized 133 under this section ceases to be eligible for residential uses 134 unless and until it is approved under the zoning and land use 135 regulations of the governmental entity. 136 3. If the permit authorized by the Department of Health 137 for the housing site is revoked, any structures must be removed from the housing site within 180 days after receipt of written 138 139 notification from the county unless the permit is reinstated by 140 the Department of Health. 141 (f) Notwithstanding this subsection, the construction or 142 installation of housing for legally verified agricultural 143 workers in the Florida Keys Area of Critical State Concern or 144 the City of Key West Area of Critical State Concern is subject 145 to the permit allocation systems of the Florida Keys Area of 146 Critical State Concern or the City of Key West Area of Critical 147 State Concern, respectively. 148 (g) A housing site that was constructed and in use before 149 July 1, 2024, may continue to be used, and the property owner 150 may not be required by a governmental entity to make changes to

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151	meet the requirements of this subsection, unless the housing
152	site will be enlarged, remodeled, renovated, or rehabilitated.
153	The property owner of a housing site that is authorized under
154	this paragraph must provide regular maintenance and repair,
155	including compliance with health and safety regulations and
156	maintenance standards, for such housing site to ensure the
157	health, safety, and habitability of the housing site.
158	Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.

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